House of Representatives

2010-2012 Proposed Committee and Subcommittee Structure

Appropriations Committee

The Appropriations Committee produces the House's proposed budget and conforming and implementing legislation. The committee provides legislative oversight regarding agency and judiciary implementation of the budget, and also reviews the Governor's budget recommendations, agency legislative budget requests, and analyzes trust funds for creation, termination or modification. Additionally, legislation with a fiscal impact is typically heard by the Appropriations Committee or one of its respective subcommittees. Budgetary issues dealing with Public Education Fixed Capital Outlay (PECO) and state employee pay, benefits and retirement issues are also within the purview of the committee.

Appropriations subcommittees recommend budgets for their respective areas to the Appropriations Committee. The purview of the subcommittees is primarily delineated by agency and is listed below.

Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee

The Agriculture & Natural Resources Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, the Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, and the Department of Citrus.

Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee

The Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Revenue, the Department of Financial Services, the Department of Management Services, the Department of Business & Professional Regulation, and the Public Service Commission.

Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee

The Health Care Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Health, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children & Families, the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Elder Affairs, and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee

The Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes funding for state universities, state and community colleges, private colleges and universities, the Board of Governors, the Division of Blind Services, and workforce education and vocational rehabilitation programs in the Department of Education.

Justice Appropriations Subcommittee

The Justice Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Corrections, the Department of Juvenile Justice, the Department of Law Enforcement, the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General), the courts system, the Justice Administration Commission, and the Parole Commission.

PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee

The PreK-12 Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes funding for Florida's K-12 education system, the Department of Education, the State Board of Education and the Voluntary Pre-K program.

Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee

The Transportation & Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee's purview includes the Department of Transportation, the Department of State, the Agency for Workforce Innovation, the Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, the Department of Community Affairs, the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, and the Department of Military Affairs.

Economic Affairs Committee

The Economic Affairs Committee oversees policies as they impact Florida's private sector economic activity and the state's role in establishing an attractive, business-friendly environment. The committee seeks to ensure state policies emphasize private sector job creation and retention, while maintaining the appropriate balance of business regulation and consumer protection.

Specific areas of oversight include economic development and tourism, business regulation, insurance and banking regulations, gaming and consumer affairs. The committee also oversees programs and issues that affect Florida's local governments and communities, the military, transportation planning and financing, and highway safety including traffic laws, driver licensing and vehicle registration. As many local bills impact the local economic base and concern matters generally considered by the committee, the Economic Affairs Committee will also address local bills.

Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee

The Business & Consumer Affairs Subcommittee oversees the state's regulation and licensing of business and professional entities, consumer regulatory programs and the regulation of alcoholic beverages, tobacco and gaming. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Business & Professional Regulation and the consumer service activities of the Department of Agriculture.

Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee

The Community & Military Affairs Subcommittee considers matters related to Florida's growth management policies and issues that affect Florida's local governments, communities and the military. The subcommittee has primary responsibility for the local bill process. This process is designed to ensure that each local bill has a public hearing in the local area affected and that the economic impacts of the bill, if any, are determined.

Also included in the subcommittee's subject areas are active military issues, growth management, housing, community programs such as historical and cultural affairs and libraries, other community related grants and services, and emergency management. The subcommittee's responsibilities cover oversight of the Department of Military Affairs and the Florida National Guard, the Department of Community Affairs, the Division of Emergency Management, the Florida Housing Finance Corporation and the historical, cultural and library activities of the Department of State.

Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee

The Economic Development & Tourism Subcommittee considers matters related to the economic policies of the state and the state's role in establishing a business-friendly environment. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover of the Governor's Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development, which has contracted out portions of the state's economic development infrastructure to Enterprise Florida, Inc. (statewide economic development), Visit Florida, Inc. (tourism), Space Florida (space and aerospace) and the Florida Sports Foundation (pro and amateur sports). The committee also has oversight over the Agency for Workforce Innovation regarding workforce, unemployment compensation issues and school readiness and the Department of State's Division of Corporations for various corporate filings.

Insurance & Banking Subcommittee

The Insurance & Banking Subcommittee has oversight over policies affecting insurance companies and financial entities in Florida. Oversight areas also include the Department of Financial Services, which administers a number of programs relating to insurance companies and agents, insurance fraud, workers' compensation, state fire marshal and funeral, cemetery and consumer services.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Office of Financial Regulation, the entity that regulates financial institutions (banks, trust companies and credit unions), securities and investments, loan originators, mortgage brokers, debt settlement companies, collection agencies and various lenders such as consumer finance companies, title loan companies, retail installment sales providers, pawnbrokers and money transmitters. The subcommittee also oversees the Office of Insurance Regulation, the entity that regulates insurance companies and insurance agents.

Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee

The Transportation & Highway Safety Subcommittee considers matters related to highway and public transportation system infrastructure and services, as well as issues relating to highway safety and the sale, ownership or operation of vehicles. The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Transportation and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

Education Committee

The Education Committee considers matters related to PreK – 12 education and postsecondary education. The committee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Education, the Board of Governors, and the State Board of Education, as well as numerous other educational entities and programs.

K-20 Competitiveness Subcommittee

K-20 Innovation Subcommittee

The K-20 Competitiveness and K-20 Innovation Subcommittees share jurisdiction for issues affecting PreK-12 education and higher education policy areas. Legislation dealing with education issues may be referred to either subcommittee. There will be no functional difference between the two subcommittees outside of their membership.

Finance & Tax Committee

The Finance and Tax Committee's purview encompasses issues concerning all state and local taxes and select non-tax revenue sources, and addresses statutory and constitutional policy regarding tax rates, tax base design and collection and enforcement parameters. The committee may also consider debt financing policy, the furtherance of economic development goals, easing tax administration burdens for state and private entities and enhancing enforcement capabilities.

Health & Human Services Committee

The Health & Human Services Committee considers matters related to programs, regulations, and systems that purchase or provide health care, health care coverage, social services and financial assistance for Floridians and their families. The Committee's oversight responsibilities cover the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Agency for Persons with Disabilities, the Department of Children and Families, the Department of Elder Affairs, the Department of Health and the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs.

HHS Access Subcommittee

HHS Quality Subcommittee

The HHS Access Subcommittee and the HHS Quality Subcommittee share jurisdiction for health and human services issues. Legislation dealing with such matters may be referred to either subcommittee. There will be no functional difference between the two subcommittees outside of their membership.

Judiciary Committee

The Judiciary Committee considers matters related to the broad range of civil and criminal law issues, including public safety and the fair and efficient administration of justice through the court system.

The Committee's oversight responsibilities in the criminal law area cover the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections, Florida Parole Commission and other criminal justice entities such as state attorneys, public defenders, regional conflict counsel, capital collateral regional counsel and local law enforcement/jails.

In the civil law area, the Committee's oversight responsibilities cover the judicial branch including courts, clerks of court and related court entities such as the Justice Administrative Commission, the Judicial Qualifications Commission and the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General).

Civil Justice Subcommittee

The House Civil Justice Subcommittee considers matters related to civil litigation, business law, family law, constitutional amendments, real property and probate law, guardianship and trust law. The subcommittee also has responsibility over claim bills.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the court system in general, including court rulemaking, clerks of court and related entities such as the Justice Administrative Commission and the Judicial Qualifications Commission. The subcommittee also has oversight of the Department of Legal Affairs (Attorney General) and has historically been the lead subcommittee in investigations that may lead to impeachment of a justice or judge.

Criminal Justice Subcommittee

The Criminal Justice Subcommittee considers matters related to criminal justice, juvenile justice and corrections.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Department of Juvenile Justice, Department of Corrections and the Florida Parole Commission. The subcommittee also has oversight of other criminal justice entities such as state attorneys, public defenders, regional conflict counsel, capital collateral regional counsel and local law enforcement/jails.

Redistricting Committee

The focus of the Redistricting Committee is consideration and approval of reapportionment and redistricting plans for Florida's State Legislative and Congressional districts. The primary goal of the Committee is to facilitate an open redistricting process for the public and every member of the House, in compliance with all applicable state and federal laws.

Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee

The primary focus of the Congressional Redistricting Subcommittee is consideration and approval of reapportionment and redistricting plans for Florida's Congressional districts.

House Redistricting Subcommittee

The primary focus of the House Redistricting Subcommittee is consideration and approval of reapportionment and redistricting plans for Florida's State House districts.

Senate Redistricting Subcommittee

The primary focus of the Senate Redistricting Subcommittee is consideration and approval of reapportionment and redistricting plans for Florida's State Senate districts.

Rules & Calendar Committee

The Rules & Calendar Committee submits Special Order and Consent Calendars for adoption by the House. The committee recommends special amendment deadlines and procedures for appropriations bills, implementing and conforming bills and special floor procedures for the management of amendments and debate on particular bills on second and third reading.

Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee

The Rulemaking & Regulation Subcommittee's considers matters related to the authority, process, review and oversight of rulemaking and regulation by government officials and agencies. This includes the operation of the state Administrative Procedures Act, special procedures that replace or supplement the APA, and delegations of legislative authority through grants of rulemaking power. Some oversight of the Division of Administrative Hearings can be expected, as well as an emphasis on matters of state and local regulation of private commercial activities.

State Affairs Committee

The State Affairs Committee considers matters related to the oversight and use of state resources, including issues relating to Florida's agriculture and citrus industries, environmental protection, the conservation of Florida's natural resources, energy, utilities and telecommunications regulation, state agency governance, ethics and elections, and state/federal relations.

The committee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (excluding consumer affairs issues), the Department of Citrus, the Department of Environmental Protection, the state's five water management districts, the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Public Service Commission, the Florida Energy & Climate Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor, the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Utility Siting Board, and the Florida Energy Systems Consortium comprised of the 11 state universities.

Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee

The Agriculture & Natural Resources Subcommittee considers matters related to Florida's agriculture and citrus industries, environmental protection and the conservation of Florida's natural resources.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (excluding consumer affairs issues), the Department of Citrus, the Department of Environmental Protection, the state's five water management districts and the Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission.

Energy & Utilities Subcommittee

The Energy & Utilities Subcommittee considers matters related to energy efficiency standards, utilities and telecommunications regulation and environmental regulations associated with energy production and transportation.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Florida Public Service Commission, the Florida Energy & Climate Commission within the Executive Office of the Governor, the Governor and Cabinet sitting as the Utility Siting Board, energy related programs and activities within the Department of Environmental Protection, the Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services, the Department of Community Affairs, the Florida Building Commission, and the Department of

Management Services, and the Florida Energy Systems Consortium comprised of the 11 state universities.

Government Operations Subcommittee

The Government Operations Subcommittee considers matters related to state agency governance, including organization and structure, operating procedures and staffing, oversight and accountability, public records and open meetings, collective bargaining and impasse, ethics and elections and employee retirement and pensions.

The subcommittee's oversight responsibilities cover the Agency for Enterprise Information Technology, the Department of Management Services, the Department of the Lottery, the Division of Elections within the Department of State and the State Board of Administration. In addition, the subcommittee assists with initiatives designed to evaluate agency spending and delivery of quality services.

Federal Affairs Subcommittee

The Federal Affairs Subcommittee considers matters related to state/federal relations, including federal policy that encroaches on issues traditionally reserved to the states, negatively affects the state's economy or taxpayers, or infringes on the personal freedoms of Floridians guaranteed by the Florida and U.S. Constitutions. The committee will also address issues particular to the state's Washington Office, which is intended to serve the Governor, the Florida Senate and the Florida House of Representatives.